
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION(S)

Submitted by: Conservation Community

Finding: *(i.e., Conclusions reached after investigation and/or evaluation of facts)*

There are some potential redundancies in the existing Basin permitting processes for projects which remove excess fuels, restore forest health and help homeowners implement defensible space.

Background and Supporting Evidence: *(A short statement justifying the Finding and describing desired outcome(s); usually no more than half a page.)*

As has been presented at multiple Tahoe Fire Commission meetings, there appears to be some redundancy in the permitting processes in the Tahoe Basin for fuels reduction, forest health and defensible space projects. This has created some confusion and in some cases, required additional time and costs for the project applicants.

Recommendation(s) *(Based upon an analysis of the Finding, the following recommendation(s) should be made to the Governors):*

1. **In a situation when two or more agencies require a permit with the same conditions and protections, the process be streamlined so that a project applicant can obtain a permit from just one agency, which provides for the same level of environmental protection (and enforcement) as provided for by multiple permits under current conditions.**

Impacts of Implementation: *(The implementation of any Recommendation is likely to have specific impacts. Consider potential consequences related to each of the following areas):*

Analysis of impacts on the following factors is REQUIRED (Best Estimate):

☐ Cost

There may be added costs to agencies taking on more responsibility (those overseeing the one permit for all agencies); however it should be investigated whether funds

can be shifted from agencies that would no longer be processing permits to those taking on the extra work.

☐ Funding source

☐ Staffing

There would be a need for additional staff time in the agencies taking on more responsibility (those overseeing the one permit for all agencies); however it should be investigated whether staff time can be shared or basically "lent to" agencies that would be taking on the extra work.

☐ Existing regulations and/or laws

Because the one "unified" permit would still include the same requirements as if there were multiple permits, the same regulations and laws would still apply.

Analysis of impacts on the following factors is OPTIONAL:

☐ Operational

☐ Social

☐ Political

☐ Policy

☐ Health and Safety

☐ Environmental

☐ Interagency